

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A communication apparatus for processing a fax signal and an audio signal includes an audio compression unit for compressing the audio signal, a fax-termination/switching control unit for terminating the fax signal and for executing control to prevent the fax signal from being compressed by the audio compression unit, a detection unit for detecting a predetermined negotiation signal used in a negotiation procedure for a fax communication from an input signal before compression within a fixed period of time starting at the beginning of the negotiation signal and an exclusion processing unit for carrying out an exclusion process on the negotiation signal upon detection of the negotiation signal.